

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Amend the Abstract as follows.

~~An exemplary embodiment of the invention is a dryer that uses a high speed blower (12) producing high velocity air, a heater (14) and an optimized air outlet (16) to generate both optimal force and temperature at the user's hands. The air outlet is sized and shaped to maintain direction of air flow, and to entrain a sufficient amount of air so as to increase the force of the airstream while not entraining too much air in the core region of the airstream which otherwise would significantly reduce the airstream impact force and temperature. These result in reduced drying time and in-process comfort and comfort afterwards.~~

After washing, the hands are dried rapidly and comfortably by using a shaped high speed flow of heated air. The air flows in a direction controlled by an air outlet shaped to retain much of the exiting forceful air flow and temperature at a distance where the hands are dried. The air entrainment is controlled so that the properties of the air flow are not diluted by the air entrainment to a point where the drying performance is degraded. The forceful air flow blows off most of the loose water on the hands. The forceful air flow also reduces the stagnation boundary layers in the hands so that the evaporation removal of the remaining film of water is improved. These result in reduced drying time and comfort during and after drying.

Amend the TITLE as follows

METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR HAND DRYING